BILLING CODE 6717-01-P DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2618-030 and 031]

Woodland Pulp, LLC; Notice of Application Accepted For Filing, Soliciting Comments,
Motions To Intervene, and Protests

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and is available for public inspection:

a. Type of Application: Fishway Operation and Maintenance Plan (P-2618-030) and

Fishway Evaluation Plan (P-2618-031)

b. Project No: 2618-030 and -031

c. Date Filed: March 22, 2017

d. Applicant: Woodland Pulp, LLC (licensee)

e. Name of Project: West Branch Hydroelectric Project

f. Location: The project is located on the West Branch of the St. Croix

River in Washington County, Maine.

g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act, 16 USC 791a - 825r

h. Applicant Contact: C. Scott Beal

Woodland Pulp, LLC

144 Main Street

Baileyville, ME 04619

i. FERC Contact: Michael Calloway at 202-502-8041, or

michael.calloway@ferc.gov

j. Deadline for filing comments, motions to intervene, and protests is **45 days** from the issuance of this notice by the Commission. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file motions to intervene, protests, and comments using the Commission's eFiling system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp. Commenters

can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-2618-030 and P-2618-031.

- k. Description of Request: The licensee filed a Fishway Operation and Maintenance Plan pursuant to Article 409 of the project license and a Fishway Evaluation Plan pursuant to Article 410 of the project license. Both plans only address fish passage and effectiveness evaluation at the project's West Branch development; these plans do not address passage and evaluation at the Sysladobsis development because of the licensee's pending amendment application (filed January 31, 2017) to remove the Sysladobsis development from the project license. The Fishway Operation and Maintenance Plan filed pursuant to Article 409 describes the fish species that would be passed and how the licensee would operate the fishway to ensure effectiveness. Under Article 409, the licensee and the resource agencies were unable to reach a consensus on which species to pass, therefore, the Commission will evaluate the record to make a determination on this issue. The Fishway Evaluation Plan filed pursuant to Article 410 provides a framework for evaluating the effectiveness of the fishway to those species selected for passage after operation of the fishway commences.
- l. Locations of the Application: A copy of the application is available for inspection and reproduction at the Commission's Public Reference Room, located at 888 First Street, NE, Room 2A, Washington, DC 20426, or by calling 202-502-8371. This filing may also be viewed on the Commission's website at http://www.ferc.gov using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. You may also register online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, call 866-208-3676 or e-mail FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, for TTY, call 202-502-8659. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item (h) above.
- m. Individuals desiring to be included on the Commission's mailing list should so indicate by writing to the Secretary of the Commission.
- n. Comments, Protests, or Motions to Intervene: Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those

who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

o. Filing and Service of Responsive Documents: Any filing must (1) bear in all capital letters the title COMMENTS: PROTEST, or MOTION TO INTERVENE as applicable: (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person protesting or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, motions to intervene, or protests must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). All comments, motions to intervene, or protests should relate to the Fishway Operation and Maintenance Plan and Fishway Evaluation Plan. Agencies may obtain copies of plans directly from the applicant. A copy of any protest or motion to intervene must be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular application. If an intervener files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency. A copy of all other filings in reference to this application must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

Dated: June 15, 2018.

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary.

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